order to ensure fair selection, selection of dealers/distributors is made by an independent body viz. Oil Selection Board for the State, which consists of a Chairman who is a retd. High Court Judge and two prominent persons as Members, one of them belonging to SC/ST/ other weaker sections of the society. Actual number of selections depends on various elements such as number of locations advertised, number of interviews conducted by the OSBs, number of candidates appearing for each location, etc. It is a continuous process.

Alleged violation of rules by Oil Selection Boards

1566. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Oil Selection Board for Haryana had recently conducted interviews for the selection of R/o dealership at Palwal;

(b) if so, the date of interview, the date on which the panel was sent to the SLC-cum-Secretary and the date on which the panel was sent to the Indian Oil Corporation;

(c) whether the selection has been made as per the fixed procedure;

(d) if not, the action taken/proposed to be taken against the OSB for the said violation of Rules; and

(e) the details of such cases of Haryana, Delhi and Uttar Pradesh in which OSB has not sent the merit panel within 24 hours to SLC-cum-Secretary and to the respective oil companies within 48 hours during the last one year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The interview for the Retail Outlet dealership at Palwal was held on 4/5-7-1995 by OSB (Haryana) and the panel was sent to SLC-cum-Non-Member Secretary, (OSB) on 5-7-1995. It was received by the Oil Company on 6-7-1995.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) In a number of cases OSBs, Delhi, Haryana & U.P. could not release the merit panel within the stipulated time. OSBs have been impressed upon to adhere to the time-schedule for release of the panels after conducting interviews.

Procedure for disconnection of Telephones

1567. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1250 given in the Rajya Sabha on 22nd March, 1995 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the procedure for disconnection of telephone connections for non-payment of bills is not being followed by the MTNL;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether registered notices were sent before disconnection of telephone numbers of 371 exchange during the months of May and June, 1995 for nonpayment of bills;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether there is any stipulated time period within which such disconnected telephone numbers are restored on the payment of dues; and

(f) if so, the time period for the same and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Registered notices are not issued to the subscribers of Digital Electronic Exchanges as in such cases, only incoming facility is allowed for 15 days to enable the customer to make the payment or reconcile the account, if the payment is already made.

The incoming facility is also withdrawn if the payment is not made within the 15 days time. Since exchange 371 level is from Digital electronic exchange, no registered notices are to be issued to the customers before carrying out disconnection of telephones due to non-payment of bills.

(e) and (f) Telephone connections disconnected due to non-payment of telephone